Welcome
Meeting Agenda

• Project Background and Status
• Overview of Montrose-Wilson-Lawrence Corridor
• Corridor Workshop
• Next Steps
Project Description

• Study area
  - Grand Avenue to Hollywood Avenue
  - 11 neighborhoods, 6 wards
  - 24 bridges and tunnels
  - 12 cross-road junctions

• Over 80 years old and in need of reconstruction
The NLSD Phase I study follows the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- National framework for planning Federal projects
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – most rigorous evaluation for a transportation project
- EIS has three main steps for design:
  - Transportation needs
  - Alternatives evaluation
  - Preferred Alternative
- Stakeholder involvement is one component of the EIS
Components of a Phase I Study

- Stakeholder Involvement
  - Context Sensitive Solutions Process
    - Public Understanding
  - NEPA / 404 Merger Process
    - Environmental Resource Agency Coordination
- Environmental Analysis & Permitting
- Design Approval
- Highway Agency Concurrence
  - IDOT / FHWA Implementation Process
  - Project Design Studies
Stakeholder Involvement

- Stakeholder Meetings: 50+ meetings*
- Task Forces: 9 meetings*
- Public Meetings: 3 meetings*
- Website: www.northlakeshoredrive.org
- Comment Forms
- Surveys

*meetings to date
Public Meeting #3

DePaul University, July 2017
262 Attendees

Topics
– Study Background/Phase I Process
– Initial Range of Alternatives
– Level 1 Screening
– Context Tailored Treatments Alternatives

280 Comments received
2,439 Surveys received
What we heard:

• Encouragement for improved pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure
• Support for transit benefits and improvements
• Concern regarding impacts to the aesthetics of NLSD and historic Lincoln Park
• Interest in effects of shoreline protections
• Recognition of problems with vehicular congestion and user safety
We are here
Study Progress to Date

Phase I
Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies

Phase II
Contract Plan Preparation and Right-of-Way Acquisition

Phase III
Construction

Identify & Evaluate Alternatives
Alternatives Carried Forward
Select Preferred Alternative
Obtain Environmental & Design Approvals


■ = Task Force Meeting
○ = Public Meeting
● = Public Hearing
Overview of the Montrose-Wilson-Lawrence Corridor
Some Key Features:

- Montrose Harbor
- Cricket Hill
- Recreational Facilities
- Lakefront Trail
- Weiss Memorial Hospital
- Clarendon Park Community Center
- Leland Avenue Greenway
- Schools
  - Uplift Community High School
  - Joseph Brennemann School
Pedestrian and Bike Demand

[Map showing traffic volumes at various intersections and underpasses, including Buena Avenue Underpass, Montrose Avenue, Wilson Avenue, Lawrence Avenue, and Argyle Street Underpass. Traffic volumes are indicated in thousands (e.g., 13,950).]
8 bus routes operate on or near NLSD between Montrose and Lawrence:

- 147 on Outer Drive
- 136 & 146 on Marine Drive
- Others on Clarendon and the major streets running E-W
Average Daily Traffic Volumes
Average Daily Traffic Volumes

Montrose Avenue

Wilson Avenue

Lawrence Avenue

Marine Drive

2013 NLSD Ramps Average Daily Traffic Volume
Pedestrian and Bike Crashes (2012 to 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Injury</th>
<th>Fatal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pedalcyclist</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Previous Stakeholder Input

North Lake Shore Drive
NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Montrose Harbor

- Add transit service on major arterials and reduce severely or eliminate vehicles to improve safety & congestion at Lawrence, Montrose & Wilson.
- Make Montrose safer & less congested for cars, bikes & pedestrians.
- Bike path needed on Wilson Ave.
- On/off-ramp weave conflict between Lawrence, Wilson & Montrose.
- No ped light at west side of Cermak at Lawrence and cars speed to get through successive lights (both on & off).
- Add bus, rapid transit & light rail from NLSO to Museum Campus & Loop.
- Mural under Belmont exit is beautiful! Can we do a few more under Lawrence?
- Refurbish Lawrence Ave, bridge ASAP, extreme disorder.
- Lawrence overpass needs repair.
- Lawrence exit needs repair.
- Keep Crickets Hill.
- Improve access to underpass.
- Route bikers to underpass.
- Keep Montrose, Lawrence & Wilson exits open. No congestion.
- Mover bike path east, rehab existing east paths, ease traffic jams due to path right-of-way.
- Add tennis courts and/or baseball/soccer fields.
- Car traffic & bike crossing are incompatible.
- Construct underpass for trail.
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Previous Stakeholder Input

LEGEND

- Critical Safety Issues
  - Pedestrian, Bicycle or Traffic Safety Hotspot
- Congestion Hot Spots
  - Pedestrian, Bicycle or Traffic Bottleneck
- Need for Improved Park Access
- Transit Needs
  - Improve service, facilities, capacity or reduce delays

○ = 2 Comments
What we heard at Public Meetings, Task Forces & submitted comments regarding Montrose-Wilson-Lawrence corridor:

- Need for safer crossings where Lakefront Trail intersects NLSD
- Identification of the area between Lawrence and Montrose as a congestion hotspot for vehicles and transit
- Interest in changes to vehicular access to NLSD (Wilson Avenue)
- Need for improved east-west pedestrian and bike crossings
- Support for green space and improved park access
- Need for improved transit access east of Marine Drive
Tonight and Next Steps

**Objective:** Identify and address community needs and those recognized by project team analysis

Host three meetings over the next six months:

- **Community Meeting #1 (Tonight)**
  - Receive community input on transportation needs and issues
- **Community Meeting #2**
  - Discuss potential alternatives
- **Community Meeting #3**
  - Review alternatives evaluation

These meetings will run parallel with the larger public meetings for the project.
Needs Assessment Workshop

Identify problem areas and areas of concern. Place markers on aerial exhibit:

- **Critical Safety Issues**
  - Pedestrian, Bicycle, or Traffic Safety Hotspot

- **Congestion Hotspots**
  - Pedestrian, Bicycle, or Traffic Bottleneck

- **Need for Improved Park Access**

- **Transit Needs**
  - Improve Service, Facilities, Capacity, or Reduce Delays

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